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HI -LIGHTS AND SIRENS Memo Series 01-02

December 2001

TO: Emergency Medical Technicians
Ambulance Service Providers
Ambulance Service Medical Directors
EMS Training Centers
First Responder Organizations
EMS Coordinators
EMS Advisory Board
Emergency Physicians Advisory Committee

FROM: Bureau of EMS and Injury Prevention
Wisconsin Emergency Medical Services Systems Section

RE: Miscellaneous Updates



**Have a safe and peaceful holiday season and seasons greetings from the staff
at the Division of Public Health, Bureau of EMS and Injury Prevention.**



HI-LIGHTS AND SIRENS MEMO SERIES

This edition of the *Hi-Lights and Sirens Memo Series* is being sent to all Wisconsin licensed EMTs to acquaint them with this valuable informational tool. The *Hi-Lights and Sirens Memo Series* contains information that is of interest and importance to ambulance service providers and individual Emergency Medical Technicians. While the memo series is mailed only to the service providers, the Bureau of EMS and Injury Prevention relies on providers to share the information with their members. Current issues in the series should be shared by hanging copies in an area where EMTs can read them. The memo series is also available on the Wisconsin EMS Website (along with a *Prevention Matters Memo Series*) at: www.dhfs.state.wi.us/DPH_EMSIP/index.htm.

RENEWAL UPDATE

The enclosed letter provides notification that the renewal process is starting earlier than normal this cycle and is using a different format. Individual license renewal forms will only be sent to those EMTs with non-affiliated licenses. EMTs affiliated with an ambulance service will renew their licenses as a group. If you have completed all required renewal training, you may start seeing new licenses early in 2002.



LICENSE REQUIRED TO PRACTICE



EMTs-Basic, IV-Tech, Intermediate, and Paramedic must have a license with each service with which they practice. Because the individual services' medical director must sign a license application for these EMTs, a separate license must be held by an individual EMT for each service for whom he responds/works. The license must be in-hand and current in order to operate with the ambulance service specified on the license.

In other words, an EMT license with one service is not transferable to another ambulance service. And, an individual is not licensed until he/she has received the actual license.

NEW ADVANCED SKILLS FOR EMT-BASIC

At the beginning of 2001, ambulance service providers were given the opportunity to apply to use three new skills/medications at the EMT-Basic level of care. These skills/medications include aspirin for chest pain, nebulized albuterol for respiratory distress and glucagon for insulin shock.

To date, over 150 services have submitted applications and received written approval to use these three new skills/medications. Remember, the ambulance service must have written approval from the Department of Health and Family Services, Bureau of EMS and Injury Prevention before beginning to use these additional skills. If your service has not received this written approval, you should not be using the medications and must remove them immediately until such written approval is received.

Additionally, the pre-approved training module for nebulized albuterol includes using a pre-mixed and pre-measured dose of albuterol for the nebulizer treatment. Only **pre-mixed doses of albuterol** are approved for use at the EMT-Basic level.

INFORMATIONAL BOOTH AT CONFERENCE

The EMS Systems Section will staff an informational booth at the WEMSA Conference in late January. Staff will be on hand to answer your questions and note your concerns. Especially pertinent will be questions regarding the new license renewal process. Stop by and say hello!

